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Sri M. DHARMALINGAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have got any idea of extending this Act to mufassal areas for improving the slums there? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already answered day before yesterday that the working of the Act in the City will be watched before it is extended to the mufassal municipalities."

Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that slums in the City of Madras grow like mushrooms on private lands and godowns and also on Government lands like pavements and if so, what the Government propose to do to clear the slums? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The hon. Member seems to be repeating the whole question once again. I have answered over and over again about what is being done." (Laughter.)

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, whereas this Act for the improvement of the slums in the City of Madras was passed some six months back, and whereas no action has been taken either by the Government or the Corporation or by any other authority in the City, is it the intention of the Government to pass a law and put it in cold storage in the pigeon-hole somewhere in the Secretariat or are they serious about implementing the recommendations contained in the Act? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, almost all slums on Corporation lands and about ten slums on Government lands have been improved. A comprehensive scheme has now been forwarded to the Government of India for getting subsidy loans."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sir, before going through the scheme, have the Government set up any machinery to collect statistics and gather details as to what is the rent collected by the slum-holders, how it is paid and what is the compensation to be paid to the slum-holders? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" All these things will be considered."

Construction of quarters for Non-Gazetted Officers.

* 868 *Q.*—Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether a housing scheme to house Non-Gazetted Officers near their offices of work is under contemplation by the Government as an item of Government's scheme to better the working conditions of Non-Gazetted Officers?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The answer is in the negative. The requests for the construction of quarters for the Non-Gazetted officers and the Last grade Government servants were examined by the Government recently and consideration was deferred to better times—for at least two years."

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SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, what is the difficulty of the Government in making an investment on this housing scheme which will bring a small dividend to them while at the same time solve the housing problem of the Non-Gazetted officers? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have already stated that consideration has been postponed to better times. If we take stock of the situation, the entire housing scheme for the Non-Gazetted officers will come to Rs. 59·12 crores. We certainly cannot afford to spend such a huge amount at the present time."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" Sir, will the Government at least consider the desirability of granting the necessary lands and interest-free loans, repayable in easy instalments, to Non-Gazetted officers so that they may build the houses for their use and occupation? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" This question may be put to the Minister concerned."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" சர்க்கார் அதற்கு முன்னதாகவே தன் சிப்பந்திகளுக்கு வீடுகள் கட்டிக்கொடுத்திருப்பதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் அப்படிக்கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் வீடுகளுக்கு வசூலிக்கப்படும் வாடகை சர்க்கார் வீட்டு வாடகைக்காக கொடுக்கும் அலவன்சை விட அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது என்பது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" The Hon. Minister said that the scheme has been postponed because it involves a lot of expenditure, namely, Rs. 59·12 crores. Will the Government consider the desirability of constructing houses for a particular class of officers at least, which may not involve so much expenditure, so that they may start the scheme now and complete it within a period of certain years? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" There is no such scheme which is under consideration. In Todhunter Nagar there is a proposal to construct 70 more quarters for Government servants. Like that, in small measure, we are doing something in that direction."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" சுமார் 59 கோடி ரூபாய் அந்தக் கட்டிடங்கள் கட்டுவதற்கு செலவாகும் என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்ன பதிலிலிருந்து தெரிகிறது. அப்படி இருக்கும்பொழுது பிரத்தியேகமாக என். ஜீ. ஓக்களுக்கு வீடுகள் கட்டி வசதிசெய்துக் கொடுப்பதற்கு, சர்க்கார் 10 கோடி ரூபாய் பொது மக்களிடமிருந்து வசூலிக்க ஒரு கடன் திட்டம் ஏற்படுத்துமா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I would suggest to the hon. Member to raise this question at the time of the Budget."

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SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH :—" May I know, Sir, whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some of the quarters provided for the Non-Gazetted officers are leaky and not kept in good repair? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" If a specific complaint is brought to my notice, I will have it looked into."

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India have offered some financial facilities under the Five-Year Plan for constructing cheap houses both for officials and non-officials? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I want notice, Sir."

Medical concessions to Non-Gazetted officers.

* 369 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state— 11-20 a.m.

(*a*) whether the Government have received representations from Non-Gazetted officers for removing defects in the medical concessions granted to them; and

(*b*) if so, what the alleged defects are?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No such representation has been received from the Non-Gazetted officers."

Construction of houses by the Co-operative Housing Societies in the City.

* 370 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of houses constructed by the Housing Society in Madras City during the year 1953–54;

(*b*) whether any representation has been made by the Government Housing Society regarding loans to individual persons on Housing Schemes in the month of August 1954; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken by the Government and the amount of increased loan, if any, sanctioned for Housing Scheme for the middle class?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The number of houses constructed by all Housing Societies in the Madras City during 1953–54 is 146.

" (*b*) A sub-committee representing the Co-operative Housing Societies in the City made a representation to Government for raising the maximum limit of loan admissible to an individual member from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 12,000. There is no Government Housing Society.